

Seymour Weiss  
National American Bank Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130  
1130

August 10, 1967

AUG 10 1967

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I received and know that I am indebted to you for having sent me the Uniform Crime Reports for the year 1966, which I found most interesting and enlightening.

I am grateful to you for continuing to think about me and I should like to reiterate my very sincere desire to be of assistance to you if ever you feel I can be of service to you in any capacity.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely and respectfully,

SW/md

*Seymour Weiss*  
Seymour Weiss

REC 13

AUG 18 1967

EXP. PROC.

AUG 11 1967

33

ack  
8/14/67  
14

10

June 22, 1967

REC 3

62-53007-14  
Honorable Seymour Weiss  
National American Bank Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

ST-105

Dear Seymour:

Your letter of June 20th has been received, and it is always a pleasure to hear from you. I very much appreciate your kind sentiments and complimentary remarks regarding my speech, "Faith, Freedom and Law." Your communication serves as a source of encouragement for me.

Thank you for your generous offer to be of assistance.

Sincerely,  
Edgar

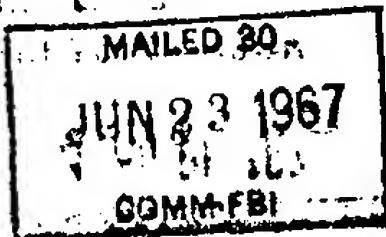
1 - New Orleans - Enclosure

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is on the Special Correspondents' List on a first-name basis.

JRP:acp

(4)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Wick \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



55

JUN 23 1967

TELETYPE UNIT

REC D HIGH  
FBI  
JUN 25 5 10 PM '67

DeLoach

JRP

a

Handwritten signature

11

23  
Seymour Weiss  
National American Bank Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

June 20, 1967

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have just read the brilliant speech which you delivered before the Regional Conference on Crime Prevention of the Michigan State Bar at Rochester, Michigan, on June 8th, and on which I should like to congratulate you.

I am sure that those who were fortunate enough to be present were as much impressed with that which you had to say as I was.

The existing conditions, which you described, are alarming and frightening and I consider the people of America extremely fortunate in having you and your great organization protecting us against such great odds, and I can only hope that the good Lord will continue to permit you to enjoy good health so that you may continue to do the great work which you have done and are doing for all of our people.

Although I realize I am being terribly presumptuous, if you ever feel I can be of assistance to you in any capacity please do not hesitate to call on me.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely and respectfully,

SW/md

VIA AIR MAIL

Seymour Weiss

REC 3

ST-105

62-53007-16  
23  
9 JUN 21 1967

EXP. PROC.  
40 JUN 21 1967

CONFIDENTIAL  
12

SEL

RA

January 12, 1967

REC 67

~~94-57540-5~~  
62-53007-15

Honorable Seymour Weiss  
National American Bank Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

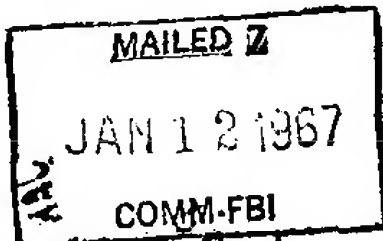
Dear Seymour:

I have received your letter of January 9th and want to thank you for your thoughtfulness in writing and offer of assistance. Your expression of confidence in my work and kind sentiments are appreciated.

I am pleased to learn you found my summary of our activities to be of interest and that your college is going to provide a training academy for law enforcement officers and firemen. It is my belief that the demands of modern society have vastly broadened the scope and increased the complexities of law enforcement problems. The ultimate fulfillment of these responsibilities lies in the recruiting and training of men of character, imagination, intellect and a strong sense of dedication to the public service. The failure or success of law enforcement hinges on the available training opportunities. I look forward to the time when all law enforcement agencies are operating on a truly professional basis.

Sincerely,

Edgar



NOTE: Correspondent is on the Special Correspondents' List and is known to the Director on a first-name basis.

BGH:mjb (3)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Wick \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FEB 3 1967

1967

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

13

6  
Seymour Weiss  
National American Bank Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Wick	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

January 9, 1967

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have just received and thoroughly enjoyed reading your Release dated January 5th, and I appreciate very much your having sent it to me.

As a citizen of our great country, I am grateful to you and your organization in the fine work you have done and are doing in protecting the best interests of our country, and I hope that the Good Lord will continue to permit you to enjoy good health and that the powers of our government officials will continue to induce you to remain the head of the great organization which you have built and are responsible for.

Mr. Hoover, I thought you would be interested in learning that recently our government donated to Delgado Vocational College, of which I have the honor to be President, 29-1/2 acres of what was previously Jackson Barracks, located in our City, and on which Delgado will create what I think will be one of the finest police and fireman's academy in the country. I am highly enthusiastic about the potentialities of our police academy and I shall keep you advised on our progress.

Although presumptuous on my part, I hope if you ever feel I can be of service to you in any capacity you will not hesitate to call on me.

My kindest personal regards.

REC 67 Sincerely and respectfully,

SW/md

Seymour Weiss

VIA AIR MAIL

10 JAN 16 1967

EXP. PROC.

JAN 10 1967

50-  
66-12  
1-12-67  
BGH:mjb

August 23, 1966

REC 30

EX - 117

~~44-575-10-4~~  
62-53007-14  
①  
Honorable Seymour Weiss  
National American Bank Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Dear Seymour:

Your letter of August 16th has been received, and I am glad to know of your interest in my statement concerning the 18th National Convention of the Communist Party, USA. The complimentary remarks you expressed regarding my work mean much to me, and I want to convey my appreciation. Thank you for your generous offer to be of service.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

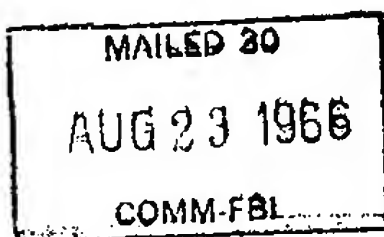
Edgar

1 - New Orleans - Enclosure

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is President and Managing Director of The <sup>(HOTEL IN NEW ORLEANS)</sup> Roosevelt and he is on the Special Correspondents' List on a first-name basis.

JRP:jss (4)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Wick \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



56 SEP 2 1966

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI  
AUG 23 3 36 PM '66

15



Seymour Weiss  
National American Bank Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

August 16, 1966

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. DeLoach ✓  
Mr. Mohr ✓  
Mr. Wick ✓  
Mr. Casper ✓  
Mr. Callahan ✓  
Mr. Conrad ✓  
Mr. Felt ✓  
Mr. Gale ✓  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Sullivan ✓  
Mr. Tavel ✓  
Mr. Trotter ✓  
Tele. Room ✓  
Miss Holmes ✓  
Miss Gandy ✓

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Justice Department Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I received and thoroughly appreciated your sending me the Statement made by you to the Subcommittee to Investigate the Administration of the Internal Security Act and Other Internal Security Laws concerning the 18th National Convention of the Communist Party, which was held June 22-26, 1966. It is undoubtedly the most enlightening and frightening document I have ever read and, of course, I have a great appreciation for the fact that you are so thoroughly familiar with the Communist Party's activities in our great country and, as one who loves our country, I feel that I and all of the people of America owe you a debt of gratitude, which we will never be able to pay.

I regret very much that it has been such a long time since I have had the pleasure of seeing you, but look forward to seeing you in the near future. In the meantime, if you ever feel I can be of assistance to you in any capacity, please do not hesitate to call on me.

My kindest personal regards,

Sincerely and respectfully,

Seymour Weiss

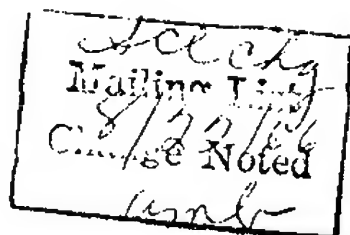
SW/md

EXP. PROC.

AUG 19 1966

REC 30

15 AUG 24 1966



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8 J2?

16

July 28, 1964

REC-123 62-53007-13  
~~94-57540-3~~

EX-102

Mr. Seymour Weiss  
President and Managing Director  
The Roosevelt  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70140

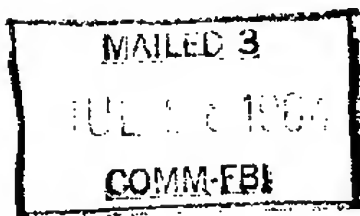
Dear Seymour:

I received your note of July 21st and want to thank you for giving me the benefit of your observations concerning the crime rate.

It was typically thoughtful of you to comment as you did, and I deeply appreciate the best wishes you extended. Your continued support over the years has always meant a great deal to me.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,



J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is on the Special Correspondents List and is known to the Director on a first-name basis.

CJJ:sls  
(3)

Let 2

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

148  
AUG 6 1964

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC'D-READING ROOM  
JUL 28 11 15 AM '64

Handwritten signatures and initials.

Handwritten initials.

17



*The*  
**ROOSEVELT**

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70140

EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
**SEYMOUR WEISS**  
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR  
THE ROOSEVELT - HOTEL NEW ORLEANS

July 21, 1964

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Honorable John Edgar Hoover  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

You were very kind to send me the uniform crime reports for the year of 1963, which I regret to advise are frightening. 1962 was a horrible year for crime and in the summary of your '63 report, in 1963 there was a 10% increase. Other statistics are just as alarming.

Unfortunately, your great organization is restricted under the law in participating in many instances where I am confident you could and would be extremely helpful in solving many crimes.

Mr. Hoover, you have earned and deserve the magnificent reputation which you and your great organization enjoy and I can only hope that the good Lord will permit you to continue to enjoy good health so that you may carry on for many years to come.

With assurance of my desire to be of service to you at all times and my kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely and respectfully,

*Seymour Weiss*  
Seymour Weiss.

REC-123

17 JUL 24 1964

CCI  
Mailing List  
Change Noted  
7-28-64

CORRESPONDENCE  
18

SW:E

*ack 7-28-64  
C-55/100*

*102*

July 23, 1963

EX - 140

REC-23

62-53007-12  
~~44-57540-2~~

Mr. Seymour Weiss  
President and Managing Director  
The Roosevelt  
New Orleans 40, Louisiana

Dear Seymour:

It was a pleasure to receive your letter of July 16th, with enclosure, and I want to thank you for your very kind remarks. Your continuing support means a great deal to all of us in the FBI, and we sincerely hope our future efforts will also merit your approbation.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,  
Edgar

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is on the Special Correspondents' List on a first-name basis

DCM:nlb (3)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FBI  
REC'D MAIL ROOM

MAILED 25  
JUL 23 1963  
COMM-FBI

53 AUG 2 1963

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

JUL 23 10 35 AM '63  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

19

*The*  
**ROOSEVELT**

NEW ORLEANS 40, LA.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
**SEYMOUR WEISS**  
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR  
THE ROOSEVELT - HOTEL NEW ORLEANS

July 16, 1963

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Honorable John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I received, thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed your report to Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and your report on the FBI's role in the field of civil rights.

First, I should like to congratulate you on your report of accomplishments to the Attorney General and my only comment on your role in the field of civil rights is fully covered in the last paragraph and, particularly, in the last four words, "without apologies to anyone", with which I agree.

It is almost incredible that you can continue to operate your important department without prejudice or partiality. You have earned and deserve the respect, admiration and gratitude of everyone in our great country and I hope that the good Lord will continue to bless you with good health so that you can serve our great country for many years to come.

I sincerely hope if you ever feel I can be of assistance to you in any capacity, you will not hesitate to call on me and, with my kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely and respectfully,

Seymour Weiss. JUL 25 1963

ENCLOSURE

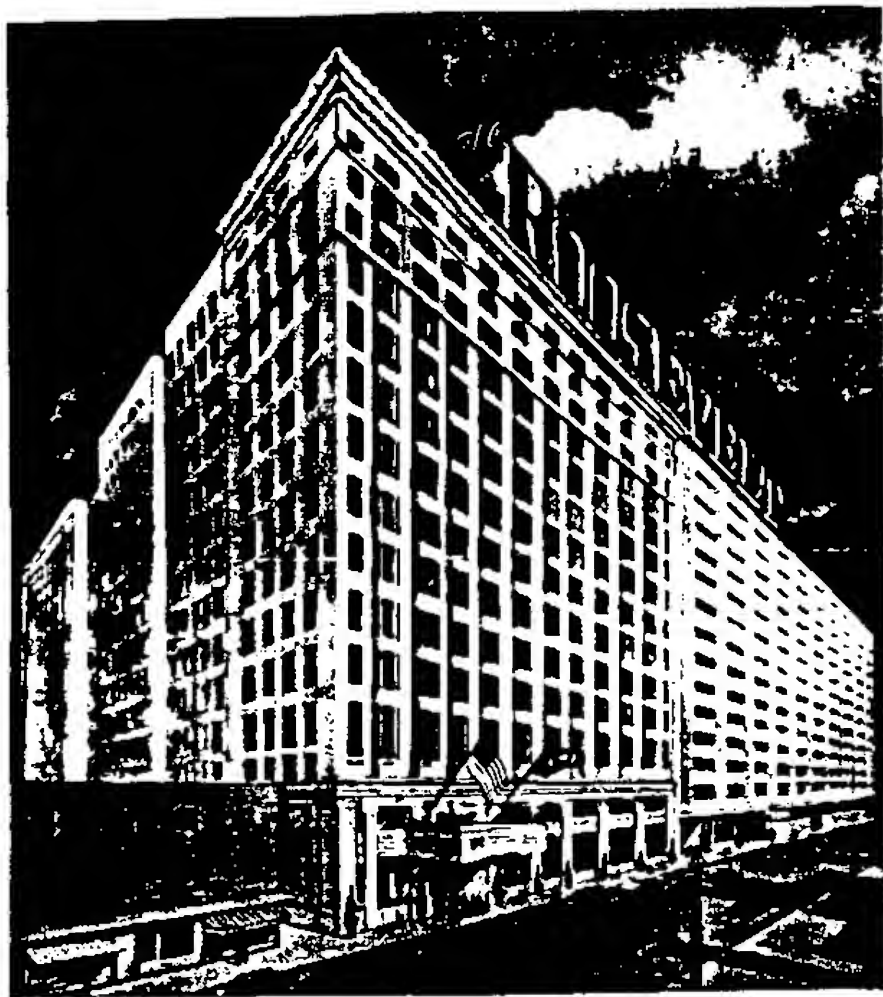
ENCLOSURE

SW:E

EXP. PROC.

JUL 19 1963

CORRESPONDENCE



*Details make perfection,  
but perfection is no small thing . . .*

That's why nothing  
was forgotten when  
**THE ROOSEVELT HOTEL**  
in New Orleans  
planned its two-year  
\$3,018,132 program...

We've just redecorated and refurnished every guest room, every suite, in our hotel. Nothing has been omitted which could contribute to the comfort and convenience of our guests.

Everything is smartly new—except the spacious size of our rooms and the high ceilings of a more gracious era.

The decor of each room is soft and relaxing. All carpeting, all drapes, are new and harmonize with new furniture and fixtures. Every bed and mattress is new; designed for luxurious comfort. TV and radio facilities are in every room.

We're proud of such things as a little light which flashes on the phone if a message or 'phone call arrives when a guest is away from the room—reminding him to call the desk.

To keep a step ahead, we've installed automatic telephone facilities which provide unexcelled service. It is no longer necessary to go through the hotel switchboard to call other rooms in our hotel, or to make local or long distance calls. You just dial the service you want, quickly and conveniently.

Air-conditioning is individually controlled to provide the "climate" desired.

Adding to the picture of completeness are The Roosevelt's four famous dining rooms—including the popular Blue Room that features lilting dance music and America's finest entertainers in floor shows at dinner and supper hours.

To serve its 900 rooms with bath, The Roosevelt maintains a staff of 1100 employees—probably the highest ratio of personnel to rooms in America. This is done to assure our traditionally superior service.

When making reservations for yourself, friends or business acquaintances coming to New Orleans, write, wire or phone The Roosevelt—located in the heart of everything. Enjoy our traditionally fine service. We welcome the opportunity to be your host.

We offer free garage for registered guests and have family plan rates.



**R**

*Seymour Hays*  
President and  
Managing Director

**THE ROOSEVELT**  
PRIDE OF THE SOUTH  
New Orleans 40, Louisiana  
Tel: Area Code 504, 529-7111



117

62-53007-12

22

ENCLOSURE

~~62-53007-12~~

REC- 65

57540 -

July 20, 1962

12 62-53007-11

Mr. Seymour Weiss  
President and Managing Director  
The Roosevelt  
New Orleans 40, Louisiana

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

JUL 20 3 53 PM '62

Dear Seymour:

I have received your letter of the 16th and appreciate the thought prompting you to write.

It was kind of you to comment as you did regarding my appropriation testimony and the accomplishments of the FBI during the last fiscal year. Your generous expression of confidence is most encouraging, and you may be sure my only desire is to continue as Director as long as I can be of service to our country.

Thank you for your offer to be of assistance, and I trust you will not hesitate to contact my associates or me whenever we can be of any aid to you.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Edgar

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is on the Special Correspondent's List on a first-name basis.

RVA:nlb (3)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 31

JUL 30 1962

COMM-FBI

60 JUL 30 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

23



*The*  
**ROOSEVELT**  
NEW ORLEANS 40. LA.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
**SEYMOUR WEISS**  
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR  
THE ROOSEVELT - HOTEL NEW ORLEANS

July 16, 1962

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Malone	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I received and appreciated very much your testimony before the House Sub-Committee on Appropriation and I should like to add my congratulations to the many I know you have received on the outstanding accomplishments of your great Department for the year ending June 30, 1962.

I feel that the entire population of our great country owes you and your fine Department a debt of gratitude which we shall never be able to pay and I can only hope that your health will permit you to continue to serve our country for many, many more years and, although I realize that I am presumptuous in offering to be of assistance to you, I hope if you ever feel I can be of service to you in any capacity, you will not hesitate to call on me.

My kindest personal regards.

Respectfully and sincerely,

*Seymour Weiss*  
Seymour Weiss.

SW:E

REC-65

62-53007-11  
57540

EXP. PROC.

JUL 18 1962

24

REC-3

June 8, 1961

EX-105

62-53007-10

*[Handwritten signature]* 11-1

JUN 8 12 27 PM '61  
FBI  
READING ROOM

Mr. Seymour Weiss  
President and Managing Director  
The Roosevelt  
New Orleans 40, Louisiana

Dear Seymour:

Your letter of May 31, 1961, has been received, and I want you to know that your comments regarding my recent article in 'Reader's Digest' are a source of great encouragement to me. The example you cited, I believe, is an excellent illustration of the need for organized recreational activities as a deterrent to youthful criminality.

I do want to express my thanks for your kind sentiments. Your offer of hospitality and desire to be of service are most thoughtful, and I hope that at some future time it will be possible for me to visit your city.

Sincerely,

Edgar

NOTE: Mr. Weiss is on the Special Correspondents' List on a first-name basis.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

CJH:pak (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

MAILED 30  
JUN 11 - 1961  
COMM-FBI

25

*The*  
**ROOSEVELT**  
NEW ORLEANS 40, LA.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
**SEYMOUR WEISS**  
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR  
THE ROOSEVELT - HOTEL NEW ORLEANS

May 31, 1961

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Malone	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Ingram	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*[Handwritten signature]*

Honorable John Edgar Hoover  
% United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have just read "These Fighters Against Youth Crime Need Your Help" which appeared in the April issue of the Readers Digest, and on which I should like to congratulate you, and I can only hope that your fine article will get the distribution it deserves, as I am confident it will do a lot of good.

I think it would be interesting to you to know that a few years ago we raised the money for a Catholic Church located in one of the poorest and toughest neighborhoods in our city to build a gymnasium for the boys in the surrounding neighborhood. I have recently learned through our excellent Police Department that since the gymnasium has been built, there has been less crime committed in that neighborhood than in any other section of our city.

You are a great American Mr. Hoover, and I am particularly proud of the privilege of being able to call you my friend, and I sincerely hope that some day you will accept my many invitations to come down and visit our very interesting city. Nothing would please me more than to have you as my guest.

In the meantime, if you ever feel I can be of assistance to you in any capacity, please do not hesitate to call on me.

My kindest personal regards.

Respectfully & Sincerely,

*[Handwritten signature]*  
Seymour Weiss.

SW:EA

**EXP. PROC.**

JUN 5 1961

REC-5

JUN 9 1961

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

*26*

N.Y., there was an 80-percent decrease in youthful crime in that neighborhood. Results like these can be found in many of the 383 cities where 575 Boys' Clubs of America serve 600,000 lads.

The formula is simple. It consists of a genuine, active adult interest in youth; a deep respect and sympathy for the individual boy and girl, tempered with rigid, tough-minded adherence to the legal and moral principles which are the cornerstones of any decent society; and, above all, an unwavering faith in our youth, and Job-like patience in helping every youngster realize the best that is in him.

This formula has worked countless times. At the end of World War II one neighborhood just west of Chicago's Loop was virtually an armed camp, torn by bloody juvenile gang wars. The streets were not safe for women, night or day; children could not be sent to the grocery store with cash.

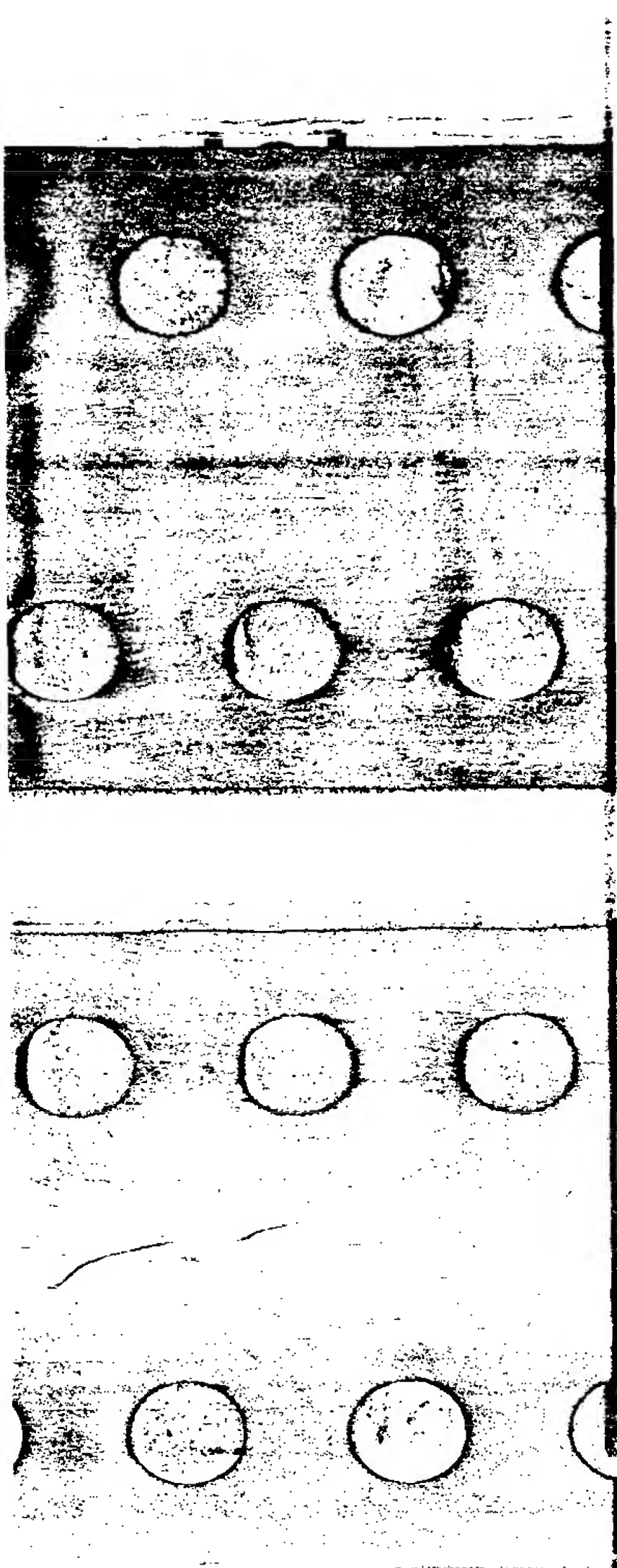
For ten years various social agencies tried to deal with these gangs with little success. Then, in 1955, a young Boys' Club extension worker whom we shall call Richard West began hanging about the pool halls and candy stores where the dominant, most vicious gang met. For months he studied the boys, listened to them, tried to talk with them. It wasn't easy. These boys came from homes filled with fearful frictions. Most had quit school. The gang was their refuge from the hostile world around them.

Rebuffed and threatened time and again, West doggedly shadowed the gang. When members were arrested, he would appear in court with them and speak in their behalf. He made the gang aware that arresting officers and judges listened to him. He was on call day and night for advice and whatever help he could provide.

Finally, one by one, gang members began coming to him with their problems. They found he could arrange loans when there was serious need—medical or dental problems, lack of food in the home. West kept watching, waiting for a display of interest he could seize on as a foundation for launching these youngsters into productive lives. Then he found it. Several times each week they would wander to a nearby high school to watch in absorbed silence as an ROTC unit performed military drill. Talking with the boys, West found they had deep respect for the kind of discipline which could produce precision drill. Here was a chance to get them active in a field in which they could win what they needed and wanted most desperately and had never had—adult support and praise.

From government surplus West obtained Army uniforms. Combat helmets were painted bright blue and white. Drums and bugles were provided. The boys learned fast. As a gang this group had flourished under iron discipline. Now the same discipline drove them toward perfection in military drill. Interest in gang feuds and hoodlumism





"They held a knife at my throat and threatened to kill my two little children if I resisted," one of the women said. "We pleaded with them, but they paid no attention."

Convicted of rape and assault, each of the five young thugs received 65-year sentences. The sentencing judge recommended that the youths never be paroled.

Tragically, similar acts of brutal violence are perpetrated daily across the country by rampaging teen-age criminals. Blazing headlines of murder, sadism and gang warfare toll the depredations of youthful criminals. An 18-year-old California art student obtained money to purchase books by robbing elderly people. Known as the "mugger bandit," he committed six vicious attacks on elderly victims which netted him \$70. Two of the victims, both elderly men, subsequently died as the result of the violent assaults. In describing his actions, the youth commented, "I picked on old men because they could not fight back."

Today youthful offenders account for one half of the burglary and larceny arrests in this country and nearly two thirds of the arrests for automobile thefts. And their rate of participation in more serious crimes—assault, robbery, rape, murder—is steadily rising.

If we are to continue living in a free and decent society, we must do much more than halt this trend; we must reverse it. Preoccupied with the pursuit of wealth and luxury, we seem to have lost touch with our

basic traditions—work, discipline, duty, honor. But if this nation is to survive, we must give our youngsters more chance to know and revere the spiritual concepts which are the real sinews of greatness.

We can help them best by committing ourselves unreservedly to a battle that an all-too-small vanguard of dedicated Americans has been fighting for us for years—the professional leaders and part-time volunteer workers of such groups as the Boys' Clubs of America, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, YMCA and YWCA, Police Athletic Leagues, and Catholic, Protestant and Jewish youth organizations. The results these groups achieve continually reaffirm my faith in the strength and appeal of the American idea, and my conviction that American youth, if given the opportunity, will eagerly accept honorable challenge.

Here are some heartening examples:

During the eight years following World War II there was a 61-percent increase in juvenile crime in Louisville, Ky. But during the same period there was a 52-percent *decrease* in one of Louisville's poorest, toughest areas. No new industry moved into this neighborhood to upgrade incomes; there was no decrease in the youth population; housing conditions were not improved. One thing happened: a Boys' Club was established there.

Within five years after a Boys' Club was organized in a delinquency-ridden area of Schenectady,

faded. They concentrated on mastering the fast, tricky cadences of the drill repertoire. Soon they were taking part in civic parades, performing at sports events and on television.

Their success as a drill team fired the imagination of rival gangs. Before long the drill teams in this area included more than 400 youngsters who had once belonged to 17 different gangs. A Boys' Club was built in the center of the area. Here boys worked off excess energy in all kinds of sports and discovered new interests in handicrafts, science, photography and drama. Gang structures disintegrated. Boys' Club workers stayed in close touch with parents, kept pointing to the worth and potentialities of their sons, awakened parental enthusiasm for the boys.

As a result of concerted adult direction and encouragement, many of these boys returned to high school; others found jobs and completed their high-school requirements during evenings in the Boys' Club library.

Today this Boys' Club thrives with a membership of more than 1000. This area, five years ago a spawning ground for big-time crime, is now a respectable neighborhood whose citizens can walk the streets unafraid, with pride in their children and hope for the future.

Some communities have done much to combat youthful criminality through wholesome recreational programs for their children. Great

progress is being made in areas where men and women care enough to do something about the problem. Seven years ago, the vast Surrey Lane area of St. Louis, Mo., faced with a growing juvenile-crime problem, did not have a single park or community center. Parents and youngsters of Surrey Lane went into action. With great effort and hard work they converted a tract of land, once a swamp, into a recreational area covering 31 acres. They raised money, cleared the land, built roads and constructed recreational facilities. And they did it as a family project—father and son, mother and daughter, young and old alike, united in the common endeavor. Today, with over 2000 youths participating in recreational activities, Surrey Lane's juvenile-crime rate is practically nil. Last year, the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pa., honored Surrey Lane with the nation's first-place award for a community program.

The Boy Scout movement, too, has proved that when a worthy challenge is promoted among youngsters, it takes. In one year the crime rate in East Harlem was more than double that of any other section of New York City. Youthful gangs kept the 64-square-block area in terror. Scouters moved in. First they sold Scouting to the ruler of the ruling gang, an 18-year-old whom police suspected of organizing the gang wars which racked the community. Soon that gang—11 boys—



was a Scout troop, dedicated to the principle of helping people instead of hurting them.

More than 150 police departments in the United States now sponsor Boy Scout units, with some police officers serving as Scout leaders. We in the FBI are proud of the fact that nearly 50 percent of our FBI agents are former Boy Scouts.

In no instance have the Boys' Clubs of America or Boy Scouts designed "special programs" for dealing with problem boys. They have succeeded simply by providing adult friendship, guidance, worthy challenge, a desire for the rewards of disciplined living. Their achievements are a monument to the intrinsic worth of our youngsters, and a powerful lesson for us all.

It is long past time that every one of us understood the deadly nature of the sickness in our society and went to work on the cure. Each one of us must help turn back the tide of moral laxity and public apathy which threatens us. Our youth movements have proved it can be done. We must get interested in our children again—in what they read, see, hear and do.

And we must get tough with ourselves. We must stop governing our lives by expediency. Nothing is so infectious as example. We must measure our every act by the same single, simple, stringent criterion that made us a great nation: "Is it right?"

+++++

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♦♦♦♦♦



*A Reader's Digest*

These Fighters Against  
Youth Crime  
Need Your Help

By JOHN EDGAR HOOVER

THE READER'S DIGEST • PLEASANTVILLE, NEW YORK

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

62-53007-10

33

*The*  
**ROOSEVELT**  
NEW ORLEANS 40, LA.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
**SEYMOUR WEISS**  
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR  
THE ROOSEVELT - HOTEL NEW ORLEANS

December 29, 1960

Dear Clyde:

I received and thoroughly appreciated your good wishes for the Holiday Season, which you may be assured are heartily reciprocated.

It pleased me very much to know that you were thinking about me and I hope if you ever feel I can be of assistance to you in any capacity, you will not hesitate to call on me.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

*Seymour Weiss*  
Seymour Weiss.

Mr. Clyde Tolson  
Apt. 1316  
4000 Mass. Ave., N. W.  
Washington 16, D. C.

EX-100

REC-39

SW:E

16 JAN 9 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

*Please name  
on special  
mailing  
list*

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62 JAN 12 1961

*1-4-61  
mem*

*34*

# The Roosevelt

NEW ORLEANS 9, LA.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

January 7, 1949.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice,  
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

Today I received from our Chicago Representatives - Leonard Hicks Jr. & Associates - a copy of your letter of December 9th with the Consolidated List of Organizations designated by the Attorney General as within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

This is indeed fine work - and we are always anxious and willing to cooperate with our government.

It may interest you to know that we were approached by the American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born - but our facilities were exhausted - and we were unable to grant their request.

Call us at anytime that we can be helpful.

Sincerely,

*Seymour Weiss*  
Seymour Weiss,  
President & Managing Director

THE ROOSEVELT.

RB/jb.

RECORDED - 138

12 JAN 1949

30 JAN 27 1949

*Individual connected with committee and  
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, FBI, Washington  
D.C. and Connolly, Mr. J. Edgar Hoover*



TO : MR. ROSEN

DATE:

17

FROM : F. L. Price

Call- 4:10 PM

SUBJECT: FREEMAN W. BURFORD  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

SA Tom Jenkins, Washington Division, telephonically requested a check of the Bureau indices on the above captioned individual as well as the East Texas Refining Company, Richard Leche and Seymour Weiss.

Jenkins advised that the Assistant USA in the District of Columbia was interested in this matter since he had received a letter from the USA at New Orleans indicating that Burford was involved in certain oil deals and was believed to be now in custody in the District of Columbia. A check of the fugitive index through Miss Gibson failed to reflect that Burford is presently wanted by the Bureau.

A check of the Bureau files further indicated that there is no pending file on Burford although he is the subject of two closed files, namely 62-51051 and 9-5345. Other main files were found on the other references but did not reflect that Burford is presently wanted by the Bureau.

This data was furnished to Agent Jenkins and satisfied his inquiry.

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be

OFFICE OF THE CIVIL ATTACHE  
EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
MEXICO CITY

March 23, 1944

*R. Noan*  
*Mr. M. H. Norton*  
*W. Schreck*

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: SEYMOUR WEISS  
Mexico Latin American Matters

*Shipwreck*  
*Kelly*

Dear Sir:

There are set forth herein the contents of a memorandum supplied to me by SIS 357 relative to a conversation he had on February 13, 1944, in New Orleans, Louisiana, with SEYMOUR WEISS, who is well-known to the Bureau:

*Eck*

" On February 13, 1944, I had dinner in New Orleans, Louisiana, with SEYMOUR WEISS, former righthand man of HUEY LONG and owner of the Roosevelt Hotel, and of whom I have spoken before. Mr. WEISS told me that he spent sixteen months in the Atlanta Penitentiary, that the Warden was the toughest man he had ever met, and that all of the 4,000 inmates would much prefer being in Alcatraz. Mr. WEISS also told me that his friends, FRANK MURPHY and J. EDGAR HOOVER, were his guests at the Roosevelt Hotel just before he was indicted. I asked Mr. WEISS if J. EDGAR HOOVER could have helped him, and he said no; that HOOVER's hands were tied, but that the FBI did not investigate his case.

Mr. WEISS said that his trouble was caused by politics and that he said that he would never again have anything to do with politics, stating that he left Louisiana now always a few days before any election so that he could not be identified in any way whatsoever with politics. Mr. WEISS said that the mistake he made was in trying to make HUEY LONG's brother Governor after HUEY LONG's death. He said he did not realize that the President of the United States, who disliked HUEY very much, would take it

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ON 11/15/28

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*SIS*  
*38*

'upon himself to personally have an investigation made of Louisiana and all of LONG's former political associates, but he said Roosevelt definitely did this, and through FRANK MURPHY, arranged to have the trial just before the Governor's election, which definitely put the jury on the spot where they could render nothing but a guilty verdict against the people who were being tried.

Mr. WEISS said he did only one thing to try to help his situation. He said he knew that if the trial came up before the election, he would definitely be convicted due to the feeling of the people in Louisiana after the investigation and indictment. He said that he offered \$50,000 to Senator WHEELER, who at that time was very prominent, if the Senator would just go to FRANK MURPHY and have the trial postponed until after the election. Mr. WEISS said that Senator WHEELER refused to do this, stating that Senator WHEELER said that he expected to be a Presidential candidate and he did not want in any way to get mixed up in the Louisiana situation. Mr. WEISS also said that when HUEY LONG was alive, the Louisiana political machine was the strongest you could possibly have, stating that every office holder in the State had to belong to HUEY's party. WEISS said that EARL LONG, HUEY's brother who ran for the Governorship, had all of HUEY's bad traits and not one of his good ones. Mr. WEISS said that since his return, people had been very nice to him, that his business was booming, and that things were coming along well. "

Very truly yours, .

*Birch D. O'Neal*

Birch D. O'Neal  
Civil Attaché

BDO'N:MKI

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

APR 4 - 1944 1944

✓ The Director	Records Section
Mr. Tolson	Personnel Files
Mr. Ladd	Send File
Mr. Coffey	Bring file up-
Mr. Rosen	to-date
Mr. Clegg	Search, serial-
Mr. Glavin	ize, and route
Mr. Nichols	* * *
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	Mechanical Section
Mr. Quinn Tamm	* * *
Mr. Nease	Call me re this
Mr. Welch	Note and return
Miss Gandy	See me

SECTION CHIEFS

Mr. Alden	Mr. Mumford
Mr. Buckley	Mr. Strickland
Mr. Burton	Mr. Timm
Mr. Callan	Mr. Glavin
Mr. Carson	Mr. Ladd
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Nichols
Mr. Fitch	Mr. Rosen
Miss Stalcup	Stamp and mail
Miss Conlon	War and Navy File
Miss James	State Dept. File
Miss Welch	Type
	Register & forward
	Prepare tickler for
	Call these files
See me	File
	Place on record
	and return

EDWARD A. TAMM - 5734

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TELETYPE

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copy - vh

FBI NEW ORLEANS 8-7-39 12-52 PM WH

DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS INFORMATION CONCERNING. RICHARD W  
LECHE, SEYMOUR WEISS AND FREEMAN BURFORD, PRESIDENT EAST TEXAS

REFINING COMPANY, INDICTED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY NEW ORLEANS TODAY  
INDICTMENT CHARGING DEFENDANTS WITH VIOLATION OF THE CONNALLY ACT  
AND FRAUD AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT, IN THAT THEY IMPAIRED THE  
OPERATION OF THE STATUTE. THIS INDICTMENT CHARGES THAT IN NINETEEN  
THIRTY SEVEN THE DEFENDANTS RECEIVED ONE HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND  
EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS, OF WHICH MARTIN VIXREY, BURFORDS ATTORNEY,  
A CONSPIRATOR BUT NOT A DEFENDANT, GOT FOURTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED  
DOLLARS AND THAT WEISS GOT THE REMAINDER, WHICH HE EQUALLY DIVIDED  
WITH LECHE. THE SECOND INDICTMENT RETURNED TODAY CHARGES WEISS WITH  
FAILING TO MAKE INCOME TAX RETURN ON SEVENTY SIX THOUSAND THREE  
HUNDRED DOLLARS IN NINETEEN THIRTYSIX, AND THAT THE SIXTY SEVEN  
THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED HE PAID TO LECHE WAS NOT PROPERTY DEDUCTABLE,  
AS LECHE PERFORMED NO SERVICE. A THIRD INDICTMENT RETURNED TODAY  
CHARGES SEYMOUR WEISS AND LOUIS LESAGE WITH CONSPIRACY SINCE  
NINETEEN THIRTYSIX, IN THAT LESAGE INCLUDED TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND  
DOLLARS IN HIS INCOME TAX RETURN WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN THE RETURN  
OF SEYMOUR WEISS, THIS MONEY HAVING BEEN RECEIVED IN CONNECTION WITH

RECORDED & INDEXED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 12 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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41



PAGE TWO

THE SALE OF THE BIENVILLE HOTEL FIXTURES. USA RENE VIOSCA ADVISED THAT ON AUGUST FOURTEENTH NINETEEN THIRTYNINE TWENTYFIVE NAMES WILL BE DRAWN FROM THE JURY BOX TO SUPPLEMENT THE PRESENT PETTY JURY PANEL. VIOSCA REQUESTED THESE ADDITIONAL PERSONS, AFTER BEING DRAWN, BE INVESTIGATED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PRESENT PETTY JURY INVESTIGATION. IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE BUREAU ADVISE IF AUTHORIZED.

SACKETT

1308 Masonic Temple Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
May 22, 1939

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES

ADVISED BY ROUTING

SLIP(S) OF

DATE

*11/19/78 ggp/du*

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Re: Louisiana Political Situation

Dear Mr. Hoover;

At the Louisiana Peace Officers Association Convention in Baton Rouge, Louisiana last week, I had an excellent opportunity to mingle with the State's peace officers who, of course, are very influential factors in the State's political situation. Earl R. Long, presently Lieutenant-Governor of the State, was very much in evidence, and openly announced his candidacy for the governorship. I had occasion to visit with Mr. LONG at different times during the Convention. He impressed me as being about the "dumbest white man" I have ever talked to, has very little intelligence, no tact, and not very much common sense. He has an over-abundance of confidence in himself, speaks authoritatively about matters he quite evidently knows nothing about, and generally makes a very poor impression. He is quite stubborn, egotistical, and is the type of man who would not listen to reason or advice from any source.

According to the present trend of the political picture, it is almost certain that EARL LONG will receive the Democratic nomination at the caucus of the party which will meet in several months to select a candidate. If he receives that support he is, of course, assured of election. The whole situation now hinges upon the actions of the Mayor ROBERT S. MAESTRI of New Orleans, who appears to hold the key to the situation. If MAESTRI supports LONG in the caucus, LONG will undoubtedly receive the nomination. Mayor MAESTRI controls the political situation in the City of New Orleans, and a large plurality in the city would be sufficient to overcome any possible plurality in the rest of the State. The principal opponent of LONG for the governorship candidacy is State Senator JAMES NOE of Monroe, Louisiana. NOE is very popular throughout the State with the exception of the City of New Orleans, and is an anti-administration man. The only other active candidate for the State administration endorsement for Governor is WADE O. MARTIN, presently State Public Service Commission Chairman. MARTIN is conceded not to have much of a chance. MARTIN was also present at the Peace Officers Association Convention; however, he did not take much of a part in the affairs, nor was he invited to make any speeches.

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ON *11-14-78* *ggp/du*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*11/19/78*

*43*

May 22, 1939

It can be plainly seen from the activities at the Peace Officers Convention that Superintendent GUERRE and the State Police are for the candidacy of EARL LONG since everything on the program was so planned as to give EARL LONG plenty of boosts and support. The general sentiment of the peace officers in attendance was not very favorable to LONG personally, but most of them apparently have taken the attitude that there is nothing which they can do about keeping LONG out and therefore would just have to go along with him.

I received confidential information at the Convention that in the event LONG is endorsed by the State Administration for Governor, EARL CHRISTENBERRY, who is presently Director of the State's Public Relations Office in Washington, will be a running mate of LONG for the office of Lieutenant-Governor. I spent quite a bit of time with EARL CHRISTENBERRY who was also present at the convention, and became personally friendly with him. CHRISTENBERRY is a very intelligent, tactful, diplomatic and likeable individual. He was private secretary to the late Senator HUME P. LONG for some time, is a very good student of Politics, and is a level-headed, capable young man. MR. CHRISTENBERRY is about 35 years of age. His brother, HERBERT W. CHRISTENBERRY, is the first Assistant to the United States Attorney, RENE A. VIOSCA, at New Orleans. The fact that EARL CHRISTENBERRY will be Lieutenant-Governor in event EARL LONG becomes Governor is not known, and this information was given to me in confidence. During my association with EARL CHRISTENBERRY at the Convention and my general conversation with him, I came to the definite belief that Governor RICHARD W. LECHE is presently in Washington for the purpose of endeavoring to secure the appointment as United States District Judge in New Orleans; that he expects to secure this appointment within the next month or six weeks, and if so will retire from office as Governor to enter upon his duties as judge within the next two months. Upon this event taking place, EARL LONG will automatically become Governor of the State and will be in position to better further his candidacy for his reelection as Governor.

The name of SEYMOUR WEISS did not enter into any of the discussions. MR. WEISS was not present at the Convention, and I received no indication that he is personally active in politics in the State. He undoubtedly, of course, is active behind the scenes.

One of my newspaper friends, EDWARD HEBERT, City Editor of the New Orleans States, in a general conversation had some weeks ago, informed me of the political situation which coincided almost exactly with the situation as I found it at Baton Rouge, and as related above. HEBERT told me that EARL LONG is extremely and rabidly anti-Semitic and that if he were elected Governor, the Jews in Louisiana would just about have

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May 22, 1939

to leave the State; that for this reason, SEYMOUR WEISS and other prominent Jews in New Orleans and throughout the State, are bitterly against LONG for the governorship and are doing everything in their power to swing the sentiment away from LONG.

SAM GURVICH was very much in evidence at the Peace Officers Convention. He had his entire patrol force at Baton Rouge, all dressed up in blue-gray uniforms. He did a lot of his usual back-slapping and boasting, and tried to stick his nose into everything that went on. Although I had seen him only twice before, he tried to pretend he was very intimately friendly with me, tried to hang around the same group of people I happened to be with, and kept referring to me as "my old friend Ed." I more or less ignored SAM and by my actions and language let him and the others know that we were not pals, and that his presence was little short of a nuisance to me. GURVICH made no statements in my presence, nor did any information reach me that he made any statements or comments in any way detrimental or derogatory to the Bureau or any of its personnel. GURVICH, of course, seemed friendly with LONG and back-slapped him as much as anyone else in attendance.

There is no question in my mind but that if EARL LONG is elevated to the Governorship, he will unhesitatingly and without any subterfuge try to dominate the peace officers in Louisiana for his own purposes.

I thought that you should have the information relative to the whole situation as it appears to me at this time.

Very truly yours,

BES:ALS

B: E. SACKETT  
Special Agent in Charge

45



**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA  
February 1, 1939

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Crowl	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. McIntire	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~PERSONAL and CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: SEYMOUR WEISS

Dear Sir:

According to (recent) news dispatch in New Orleans, the claim of the Federal Government against Colonel SEYMOUR WEISS, Manager of the Roosevelt Hotel, for income tax violation, has been settled for approximately \$38,000.00. (You will recall that WEISS was formerly under indictment in this district) and the charges were quashed, and the matter never came to trial.

The case against A. I. SHUSHAN, associate of WEISS, has not as yet been disposed of and hearings on his case are being held in New Orleans at the present time.

In a recent news dispatch some information was given relative to the history of WEISS, and his present business connections are set forth. You may be interested to know in 1931 he became president and managing director of the New Orleans Roosevelt Corporation, and he is Vice-President of the corporation owning the Belmont-Plaza Hotel in New York City. He is president of the Jacobs Candy Company of New Orleans, the New Orleans Baseball Club, the Board of Commissioners, Port of New Orleans; the Commissioner of Fire and Police of New Orleans; national treasurer of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress; a member of the Rotary Club, Young Men's Business Club, and several golf clubs."

The historical article relative to him which appeared in the New Orleans Item of January 15, 1939 is enclosed for your information.

Very truly yours,

R. B. HOOD  
Special Agent in Charge

RBH:ALS  
Enclosure

62-53007-1

FEB 18 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON Tamm ONE NICHOLS

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ON 11-14-78

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New Orleans Item  
January 15, 1939

# Did You Know This About...

By J. T. ARMSTRONG

Colonel Weiss has probably broken all records for being a colonel. He has received this honorary title from six governors. In addition to that, he was given the title of ranger by a governor of Texas. He has the unique distinction of having served on the staffs of five governors all at the same time.

His outstanding childhood memory is a 160-mile train ride from Bunkie, La., his birthplace, to Abbeville, La., where his family moved when he was about four years old. The thrill of boarding a real train and watching the scenery slide by for the first time still lingers.

His greatest youthful ambition was to work in a livery stable. Livery stables were then a center of activity and he loved horses so much that he gladly carried them and hitched them up free of charge. Since he was a youth he has always managed to own horses.

When he finds time to read, which he admits is seldom, he reads history. As a hotel executive, he has paid more attention to music of the popular variety than to literature. He has always been partial to Hawaiian music; considers it the most soothing variety. He has a large collection of Hawaiian records and prefers a singing guitar to any other instrument. (His penchant for Hawaiian music is reflected by the Hawaiian Blue Room at Hotel Roosevelt, which he opened with a Hawaiian band.)

Although the cuisine at the hotel he operates is widely regarded as excellent, Colonel Weiss does not fancy himself as a gourmet. He likes to eat so well that he might better be classed as a gourmand, or possibly, he says, as a glutton. If he were to choose just one dish for a steady diet, it would be chicken. He loves chicken fried, baked, stewed, fricaseed or any other way, just so it's served with rice and gravy. He is a fairly good cook; best at frying steaks, bacon or ham or making salads that require perfect dressings.

He is rated by experts as one of the nation's best-dressed men.

Colonel Weiss once worked as a clerk in a shoe store in New Orleans. If his employer had not died and the store gone out of business, he believes he still might be a pretty good shoe clerk. When the store closed, he obtained a job at the Grunewald hotel, now the Roosevelt, as manager of the hotel barber shop; salary \$25 per week. After four months he resigned but the hotel management felt he had possibilities; gave him new assignments in various parts of the house. He became business promotion manager; assistant manager and in 1929 he became manager.

## Colonel Seymour Weiss



52007-1

47

He is firmly convinced that the breaks in life are the ruling factors in success or failure.

He believes the most essential qualification for a successful hotel man is a genuine love for people and a constant desire to serve them. He hasn't taken a drink of intoxicating liquor in the hotel since he entered the business and doesn't allow employees of the Roosevelt to drink on duty.

His principal diversions are horse-back riding and golf. He has branched into numerous civic and business enterprises, but he con-

siders the hotel business his career. His greatest ambition is to be a successful hotel operator.

(Biographical Note: Colonel Seymour Weiss was born in Eunice, La., September 13, 1896, and moved with his family to Abbeville, La., when a small boy. He received a brief formal education before he took his first job as a clerk in a store in Alexandria, La. He kept this job until 1917, when he went to an army training camp.

When he was discharged from the army in 1918 he obtained a job in a New Orleans shoe store. The store eventually went out of business and he went to work for the old Grunewald hotel, now the Roosevelt, becoming manager in 1929 and vice-president in 1930. In 1931 he became president and managing director of the New Orleans Roosevelt Corp., a position which he still holds. He is vice-president of the corporation which owns the Belmont Plaza in New

York; president of the Jacob Candy Company, New Orleans; president of the New Orleans Baseball club (which he considers a purely civic venture); president of the Board of Commissioners Port of New Orleans; commissioner of fire and police of New Orleans; national treasurer of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress; a member of the Rotary club, Young Men's Business Club, Association of Commerce, and of three golf clubs, Metairie, Audubon and West End. He lives with Mrs. Weiss at the Roosevelt hotel.)

Huey Long

File

98-11623



FMS;RMB

98-11623 -2

October 5, 1942

RECORDED

PERSONAL ATTENTION

SAC, New Orleans

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS  
Attempt to Destroy Easy Long  
Mississippi River Bridge, 8-5-42  
SPECIAL OFFICER CHARLES L. WHITLEY, Informant  
SABOTAGE

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent P. V. Richardson dated August 12, 1942 at New Orleans, Louisiana in the above entitle case.

Your attention is directed to the fact that although this matter was brought to the attention of the Bureau by teletype dated August 6, 1942, the teletype was not given as a reference but was quoted in the details of the report. I cannot understand why Agent Richardson considered it necessary to quote a teletype directed to the Bureau in the report instead of giving it as a reference.

Your attention is also directed to the fact that although the subjects involved in this matter were not identified, the facts were presented to the United States Attorney for an opinion relative to prosecution. As you have been previously instructed, I do not desire that "Unknown Subjects" cases be presented to a United States Attorney for an opinion relative to prosecution. Further, a review of this report fails to disclose any evidence which would warrant the United States Attorney authorizing prosecution even if the subjects had been identified.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

In this regard, it is noted that the United States Attorney advised that the investigation did not warrant prosecution and authorized the closing of the case. It should be unnecessary for me to have to point out that the Bureau does not have to obtain the permission of the United States Attorney to close a case, and it is obvious that Agent Richardson discussed the matter with the United States Attorney so that he could submit a closing report in this matter.

You are instructed to discuss the above comments with Agent Richardson so that he may be guided accordingly in the future.

Yours truly,

John Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6

OCT 11 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **New Orleans, La.**

FILE NO. **98-275**

<b>REPORT MADE AT</b> <b>New Orleans, La.</b>	<b>DATE WHEN MADE</b> <b>8-12-42</b>	<b>PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE</b> <b>8-6, 7-42</b>	<b>REPORT MADE BY</b> <b>P. V. RICHARDSON</b>
<b>TITLE</b> <b>UNKNOWN SUBJECTS:</b> <b>ATTEMPT TO DESTROY HUEY LONG MISSISSIPPI RIVER</b> <b>BRIDGE, 8-5-42;</b> <b>SPECIAL OFFICER CHARLES L. WHITLEY, INFORMANT</b>			<b>CHARACTER OF CASE</b> <b>SABOTAGE</b>
<b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b> Bridge authorities reported two men approached bridge carrying roll of insulated wire at 11:15 P.M. 8-5-42. Subjects fled when called to by guard. Investigation revealed no further evidence. Bureau advised by teletype dated 8-6-42. U.S. Attorney New Orleans declined prosecution.			
- 6 -			
<b>DETAILS:</b> This investigation is predicated upon information received telephonically from Special Officer CHARLES L. WHITLEY, Public Belt Railway Co., New Orleans, at which time he advised R. J. MONIER, a guard on the West bank of the Mississippi River at the Huey Long Bridge had reported to him having seen two young men approach the bridge carrying a roll of insulated wire. Both the guard and Mr. WHITLEY having been of the opinion that these unknown persons were attempting to destroy the bridge, Mr. WHITLEY thought it necessary to report the matter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.			
<p style="margin-left: 40px;">On August 6, 1942 Special Agent J.B. BOWKER and the writer conducted an investigation at the point where the guard stated the men had been seen and were unable to find any evidence of an attempt having been made to place dynamite or other explosives anywhere near the bridge. It was noted that considerable undergrowth was to be found near the bridge at this point, which made it easy for the subjects to have fled and passed from the view of the guard when he had called to them.</p>			
<p style="margin-left: 40px;">MR. CHARLES L. WHITLEY, Special Officer of the Public Belt Railway Co., who is in charge of the guard force stationed on this bridge, was interviewed and stated that R. J. MONIER, who had called in the original complaint was considered a very good conscientious employee; that he had worked approximately one year and had never missed a call from one of his signal boxes and had never been late for work. Mr. WHITLEY advised that he</p>			
<b>APPROVED AND FORWARDED:</b> <i>[Signature]</i>		<b>SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</b>	
<b>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</b> 5 - Bureau 1 - USA, New Orleans 2 - New Orleans 1 - ONI, New Orleans		<div style="text-align: center;">                         DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES  <div style="font-size: 2em; margin: 10px 0;">98-116-23-2</div> <div style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 10px 0;">12 AUG 17 1942</div> </div>	

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280 JAN 30 1961



had heard some rumor concerning a young couple who had been seen in that vicinity a few days prior to the instant report and that he believed this couple had worked for Mr. J. W. SMITH at Bridge Circle Inn, which is located on U.S. Highway 90 approximately 3/4 of a mile from the Mississippi River on the west side.

Mr. SMITH was contacted and stated that a young man who gave his name as B. LEWIS had appeared at his place and asked for employment and had worked at the Bridge Circle Inn for two nights and had been dismissed because he had come to work shabbily dressed and apparently did not have sufficient clothes to work in such an establishment as he ran. He stated the subject was approximately 22 years of age, 5'9" tall, weighing about 150 pounds and that he claimed to be from Texas, having worked at a dairy near San Antonio and that he was in New Orleans looking for employment. Mr. SMITH advised that the subject did not appear to be a person who would be involved in an attempt to destroy the bridge and that he believed him to be just an ordinary tramp. The writer contacted Mr. R. J. MONIER at 1721 N. Broad Street, who stated that he had worked at the bridge for approximately a year and that he considered his position one of great importance and that he had tried to carry on his duties there as efficiently as possible and felt that any irregularity seen on his beat should be reported. He verified the statements given by Mr. W. HITLEY that he had seen two unknown white men whom he described as in their early twenties, about 5'6" to 5'9" in height and stripped to the waist approach the bridge at 11:15 P.M., just as he was about to make a call on one of the signal boxes which is located approximately one-half mile from the river on the west bank. MONIER stated that he had placed his shot gun against the post on which the signal box is located and was about to make his call when he heard a noise in the bushes near him. He turned and saw the two men standing in the edge of the weeds and bushes approximately 35 feet from him. He stated that he called to them asking, "What are you doing there?" and that both men fled, going in opposite directions into the woods. He stated that he was afraid to fire on the two subjects not knowing who they were and thinking that they might live near by.

The Bureau was advised by teletype dated 8-6-42 as follows:

"UNSUBS. ATTEMPT TO DESTROY HUEY P. LONG MISSISSIPPI RIVER BRIDGE, NEW ORLEANS, LA., AUGUST FIFTH, FORTYTWO. SABOTAGE. AT ELEVEN FIFTEEN PM ABOVE DATE, GUARD R. J. MONIER AT BRIDGE TRIED TO STOP TWO MEN, BELIEVED TO BE CARRYING INSULATED WIRE. MEN DESCRIBED AS WHITE, IN EARLY TWENTIES, ABOUT FIVE FEET SIX TO NINE INCHES TALL, STRIPPED TO THE WAIST. INVESTIGATION TODAY DID NOT REVEAL ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. REPORT FOLLOWS."

The writer then contacted Mr. ROBERT AIKEN, General Superintendent of the Huey P. Long Bridge to discuss the matter with him and Mr. AIKEN advised that he did not think the matter justified an investigation and that he had told Mr. WHITLEY he believed it would have been unnecessary to call the Bureau Agents on a case of such non-specific nature. He added, however, that he deeply appreciated any assistance which the Federal Bureau of Investigation might give him and that he certainly would call the New

Orleans Office at any time a report by one of the guards justified a complete investigation. He further advised that although he considered MONIER a very good guard, he did think he was rather ambitious and perhaps a little too hasty to make reports such as he had called in.

On 8-11-42 the facts of this case were presented to the U.S. Attorney HERBERT W. CHRISTENBERRY, who advised that the investigation did not warrant prosecution and authorized that the case be closed.

- CLOSED -

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **New Orleans, La.**

FILE NO. **88-878**

<b>REPORT MADE AT</b> <b>New Orleans, La.</b>	<b>DATE WHEN MADE</b> <b>8-12-42</b>	<b>PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE</b> <b>8-6, 7-42</b>	<b>REPORT MADE BY</b> <b>P. V. RICHARDSON</b>
<b>TITLE</b> <b>UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;</b> <b>ATTEMPT TO DESTROY NEW LONG MISSISSIPPI RIVER</b> <b>BRIDGE, 8-5-42;</b> <b>SPECIAL OFFICER CHARLES L. WHITLEY, INFORMANT</b>			<b>CHARACTER OF CASE</b> <b>SABOTAGE</b>
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b> Bridge authorities reported two men approached bridge carrying roll of insulated wire at 11:15 P.M. 8-5-42. Subjects fled when called to by guard. Investigation revealed no further evidence. Bureau advised by teletype dated 8-6-42. U.S. Attorney New Orleans declined prosecution.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- 4 -</p> <p><b>DETAILS:</b> This investigation is predicated upon information received telephonically from Special Officer CHARLES L. WHITLEY, Public Belt Railway Co., New Orleans, at which time he advised R. J. MOHNER, a guard on the West bank of the Mississippi River at the New Long Bridge had reported to him having seen two young men approach the bridge carrying a roll of insulated wire. Both the guard and Mr. WHITLEY having been of the opinion that these unknown persons were attempting to destroy the bridge, Mr. WHITLEY thought it necessary to report the matter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.</p> <p>On August 6, 1942 Special Agent J.E. BOWKER and the writer conducted an investigation at the point where the guard stated the men had been seen and were unable to find any evidence of an attempt having been made to place dynamite or other explosives anywhere near the bridge. It was noted that considerable undergrowth was to be found near the bridge at this point, which made it easy for the subjects to have fled and passed from the view of the guard when he had called to them.</p> <p>MR. CHARLES L. WHITLEY, Special Officer of the Public Belt Railway Co., who is in charge of the guard force stationed on this bridge, was interviewed and stated that R. J. MOHNER, who had called in the original complaint was considered a very good conscientious employee; that he had worked approximately one year and had never missed a call from one of his signal boxes and had never been late for work. Mr. WHITLEY advised that he</p>			
<b>APPROVED AND FORWARDED:</b>		<b>SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</b>	<b>DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES</b>
<b>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</b> <b>5 - Bureau</b> <b>1 - USA, New Orleans</b> <b>2 - New Orleans</b> <b>1 - ONI, New Orleans</b>		<div style="text-align: right; font-size: 2em;">5</div>	

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 6 1942

TELETYPE

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Ladd.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Mr. Carson.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Hendon.....
- Mr. Kramer.....
- Mr. McGuire.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Nease.....
- Miss Gandy.....

FBI NEW ORLEANS

8-6-42

10-45 PM

DIRECTOR

TRYA. UNSUBS, ATTEMPT TO DESTROY HUEY P. LONG MISSISSIPPI RIVER  
BRIDGE, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA., AUGUST FIFTH, FORTYTWO. SABOTAGE.  
AT ELEVEN FIFTEEN PM ABOVE DATE, GUARD R. J. MONIER AT BRIDGE TRIED  
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STRIPPED TO THE WAIST. INVESTIGATION TODAY DID NOT REVEAL ANY  
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. REPORT FOLLOWS.

GUERIN

END

ACK

11-50 PM OK FBI WA

NM

RECORDED

N 98-11623-1

AUG 10 1942

AUG 28 1942